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Date: 1/12/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-111)(KUC)

SUBJECT: GEORGE WILDMAN BALL
SPI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/16/85 BY 4.145/CJL

ReButeletype dated 12/18/65.

On 1/12/65, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] Registrations

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b7C

Section, Internal Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice. She advised that the appointee's registration under Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 as amended, was terminated on 1/27/61, by reason of his entry in U.S. Government service.

The file contained no additional pertinent information.

On 1/12/65, Mrs. LOUISE D. ROUSE, Secretary to the Assistant Director for Administration, Division of Security, AEC made available the appointee's security file [redacted] which was reviewed by SA J. RICHARD NICHOLS. This file revealed that appointee was granted "Q" clearance on 3/31/61, approved by the General Manager under Section 145b to have access to restricted data as may be necessary in the performance of his official duties as Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

b6 per DOE

This clearance is presently active.

(1) - Bureau
1 - Washington Field
NAA/shg
(2)

AIRTEL

161-111 57

NOT RECORDED

9 FEB 18 1965

Approved: DSR/ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

January 14, 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/6/85 BY 9145/CJH

[Handwritten Signature]
GEORGE WILDMAN BALL

An applicant-type investigation was conducted in 1961 concerning Mr. Ball, the results of which were summarized in a memorandum dated February 6, 1961. This summary memorandum covers Mr. Ball's activities since February, 1961.

Employment

On November 24, 1960, Mr. Ball was named by the then President-elect as a member of a task force on State Department operations.

On February 1, 1961, Mr. Ball was appointed Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C. Since December 4, 1961, he has served as the Under Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

Marital Status

Mr. Ball, his wife, Ruth Murdock Ball, [redacted] reside at 3100 35th Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

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Interviews

Dean Rusk, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., advised he has known Mr. Ball since 1953, and has closely associated with him since 1960. He said Mr. Ball is capable, industrious and loyal, and that he has never heard of any derogatory information concerning Mr. Ball. He stated that prior to entering Government service in 1961, Mr. Ball handled matters involving oil and air transportation as an attorney, and as a result of this, Mr. Ball has disqualified himself in these two fields as a State Department official in order to prevent any possible conflict of interest. Mr. Rusk stated

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George Wildman Ball

Mr. Ball deserves the highest recommendation that can be given him.

William P. Bundy, Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C., related that he has been professionally acquainted with Mr. Ball for twelve years and that he has lived next door to him for the past six years. He said Mr. Ball is a man of excellent character, conduct, morals, reputation and associates, and a loyal citizen of the United States. He described him as a capable, intelligent, conscientious and reliable person and recommended him for a position of trust and confidence.

Walter Lippmann, columnist, Washington, D. C., advised he and Mr. Ball have been good friends for the past fifteen years. He stated that Mr. Ball is a man of excellent character and one who possesses no abnormal habits or vices. Mr. Lippmann related that Mr. Ball is an honorable man who enjoys a normal home life with his wife and two children. He commented favorably concerning his associates, patriotism and reputation, and recommended him for continued employment in a position of trust and confidence.

Frank Carlson, United States Senator from Kansas, advised at Washington, D. C., that he has been acquainted with Mr. Ball since 1952, and that Mr. Ball is a very able man who is doing a commendable job at the Department of State. He related that prior to assuming his present position Mr. Ball was very active in the field of international law and represented a number of foreign countries. Senator Carlson stated that he has not seen any indication in Mr. Ball's conduct at the Department of State which would indicate that Mr. Ball has been influenced in any of his opinions or decisions because of this former association with foreign countries. Senator Carlson recommended Mr. Ball without reservation for a position of trust and confidence and commented favorably concerning his character, associates, reputation and loyalty.

George Wildman Ball

Stuart Symington, United States Senator from Missouri, advised at Washington, D. C., that he has known Mr. Ball professionally for some twenty years and that he considers him to be a very capable, knowledgeable and extremely conscientious Government representative. He commented favorably concerning Mr. Ball's character, associates, patriotism and reputation, and highly recommended him for continued employment in a position of trust and confidence.

The following individuals were interviewed at Washington, D. C., and also furnished similar favorable comments concerning Mr. Ball's character, ability, patriotism, reputation and associates, and recommended him for a position of trust and confidence:

Members of the United States Senate

Karl E. Mundt, from South Dakota.

Bourke B. Hickenlooper, from Iowa.

George D. Aiken, from Vermont.

Thomas J. Dodd, from Connecticut.

Frank Church, from Idaho.

Michael J. Mansfield, from Montana.

Russell B. Long, from Louisiana.

Members of the United States House of Representatives

Barratt O'Hara, from Illinois.

Wayne L. Hays, from Ohio.

Omar Burleson, from Texas.

E. Ross Adair, from Indiana.

Armistead I. Selden, Jr., from Alabama.

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Frances P. Bolton, United States Representative from Ohio, also advised at Washington, D. C., that no derogatory information concerning Mr. Ball has come to her attention but that she has often wondered about his background and how he came to be named to his present position. Because of this lack of knowledge concerning Mr. Ball, Mrs. Bolton does not repose trust in him and did not wish to voice an opinion as to a recommendation for him.

Seventeen other professional and social acquaintances were interviewed during the current inquiries concerning Mr. Ball and they advised he has demonstrated a high degree of competence, intelligence, dedication and patriotism in discharging his duties as Under Secretary of State. His character, reputation, associates, family relationship and integrity were commented upon favorably and he was highly recommended for a position involving trust and responsibility.

Close Relatives

Mr. Ball has the following close relatives not mentioned hereinbefore.

Brother, Stuart S. Ball, Evanston, Illinois; and

Brother, Ralph K. Ball, Evanston, Illinois.

Credit and Arrest Checks

Information has been received from the appropriate credit reporting and law enforcement agencies indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Ball or his close relatives.

Passport Records

The records of the Passport Office, Department of State, reveal Mr. Ball has been issued passports on numerous occasions since March, 1961.

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Clearances

Mr. Ball was cleared for an appointment to a sensitive position within the Department of State in January, 1961, and on February 9, 1962, the Secretary of State personally granted security clearance to him. He was given a "Q" clearance by the United States Atomic Energy Commission in March, 1961. These clearances are presently in effect.

Bar Affiliations

Records of the appropriate bar associations and grievance committees have been checked and either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Ball was noted.

Miscellaneous

The records of the Registration Section, Internal Security Division, Department of Justice, indicate Mr. Ball's registration under the Foreign Agents Registration Act was terminated on January 27, 1961, by reason of his entry into Government service.

Agency Checks

Information has been received from the following b3 per CIA governmental agencies

[Redacted]
Bureau of Personnel Investigations, Civil Service Commission; Central Intelligence Agency; House Committee on Un-American Activities; Office of Security, Department of State; Division of Security, Atomic Energy Commission; and the United States Secret Service.

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Ball.